
By: **Chairman, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee**
(By Request - Departmental - Human Resources)

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2004
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Care - Family Day Care Home Registrations and Child Care Center**
3 **Licenses**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing family day care home registrations and child care
5 center licenses and letters of compliance to continue in effect without renewal
6 under certain circumstances; establishing the expiration date of initial family
7 day care home registrations and child care center licenses and letters of
8 compliance; altering the agency responsible for the orientation of prospective
9 family day care providers; altering certain inspection requirements for family
10 day care homes and child care centers; providing for a delayed effective date;
11 and generally relating to the registration and licensing requirements of family
12 day care homes and child care centers.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Family Law
15 Section 5-551 and 5-578
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
19 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article - Family Law**

21 5-551.

22 (a) The Department shall adopt rules and regulations that relate to the
23 registration of family day care homes.

24 (b) So far as practicable, the rules and regulations shall be uniform with the
25 rules and regulations adopted by other State agencies as those rules and regulations
26 relate to other types of day care.

27 (c) At a minimum, the rules and regulations shall provide for:

1 (1) minimum standards of environmental health and safety, including
2 provisions for:

- 3 (i) adequate and safe physical surroundings;
- 4 (ii) the physical and mental health of day care providers; and
- 5 (iii) investigation of any criminal record of a day care provider;

6 (2) a thorough evaluation of each prospective family day care home and
7 day care provider, to be completed before the Department accepts an initial
8 registration;

9 (3) [self-certification by each registered day care provider once every 2
10 years that all requirements for a family day care home are being met] AN INITIAL
11 FAMILY DAY CARE REGISTRATION THAT EXPIRES 2 YEARS AFTER ITS EFFECTIVE
12 DATE;

13 (4) A CONTINUING FAMILY DAY CARE REGISTRATION THAT:

14 (I) UPON APPLICATION BY THE DAY CARE PROVIDER THAT MEETS
15 THE REQUIREMENTS SET BY THE DEPARTMENT, IS ISSUED TO THE PROVIDER
16 BEFORE THE END OF THE INITIAL REGISTRATION PERIOD; AND

17 (II) ONCE ISSUED, REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL SURRENDERED,
18 SUSPENDED, OR REVOKED;

19 [(4)] (5) reporting of any changed circumstances that relate to the
20 requirements, by the day care provider, at the time the change occurs;

21 [(5)] (6) an orientation to be provided to prospective day care providers
22 by the [local department] DEPARTMENT before initial registration;

23 [(6)] (7) inspection by the Department of each registered family day care
24 home prior to issuance of an initial registration and at least once every 2 years
25 thereafter [prior to issuance of a renewed registration] to determine whether [the]
26 APPLICABLE requirements, INCLUDING RECORD-KEEPING REQUIREMENTS, are
27 being met;

28 [(7)] (8) unannounced inspection by the Department of each registered
29 family day care home [in any year that an initial or renewal inspection has not taken
30 place] AT LEAST ONCE DURING EACH 12-MONTH PERIOD THAT AN INITIAL OR
31 CONTINUING REGISTRATION IS IN EFFECT TO DETERMINE WHETHER SAFE AND
32 APPROPRIATE CHILD CARE IS BEING PROVIDED;

33 [(8)] (9) procedures to be followed by the Department in response to a
34 complaint about a family day care home;

35 [(9)] (10) a requirement that a person who advertises a family day care
36 home or family day care service shall:

1 (i) indicate in the advertisement that the family day care home is
2 registered; and

3 (ii) display in the advertisement the registration number issued to
4 the family day care home or family day care service by the Department; and

5 [(10)] (11) a requirement that each registered day care provider shall
6 hold a current certificate indicating successful completion of approved:

7 (i) basic first aid training through the American Red Cross or
8 through a program with equivalent standards; and

9 (ii) cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training through the
10 American Heart Association or through a program with equivalent standards
11 appropriate for the ages of children for whom care is provided in the family day care
12 home.

13 5-578.

14 (a) Each INITIAL license and letter of compliance expires on the [first]
15 SECOND anniversary of its effective date[, unless the license or letter of compliance is
16 renewed for a 1-year term as provided in this section].

17 (b) [Before the license or letter of compliance expires, the licensee or letter
18 holder periodically may renew it for an additional 1-year term, if the licensee or letter
19 holder meets the current requirements for a new license or letter of compliance.]
20 PRIOR TO EXPIRATION OF AN INITIAL LICENSE OR LETTER OF COMPLIANCE, AND ON
21 APPLICATION BY THE LICENSEE OR LETTER OF COMPLIANCE HOLDER THAT MEETS
22 THE REQUIREMENTS SET BY THE DEPARTMENT, A CONTINUING LICENSE OR LETTER
23 OF COMPLIANCE MAY BE ISSUED THAT REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL SURRENDERED,
24 SUSPENDED, OR REVOKED.

25 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INSPECT EACH CHILD CARE CENTER
26 OPERATING UNDER A LICENSE OR A LETTER OF COMPLIANCE:

27 (1) PRIOR TO ISSUING THE LICENSE OR LETTER OF COMPLIANCE AND
28 AT LEAST EVERY 2 YEARS THEREAFTER TO DETERMINE WHETHER APPLICABLE
29 REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS, ARE BEING MET;
30 AND

31 (2) ON AN UNANNOUNCED BASIS AT LEAST ONCE DURING EACH
32 12-MONTH PERIOD THAT THE LICENSE OR LETTER OF COMPLIANCE IS IN EFFECT TO
33 DETERMINE WHETHER SAFE AND APPROPRIATE CHILD CARE IS BEING PROVIDED.

34 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
35 January 1, 2005.